Amendments to the Specification

Please **amend** the paragraph beginning on line 24 of page 14 and ending on line 2 of page 15 as follows:

When the *Create Path* request arrives at node 230 (Node 1.7) ~~230~~, the last node in the specified path, Node 1.7 sends a *Change Target* request to node 200 (Node 1.6), node 200 (Node 1.6) being the source node of the VP. "Node 1.7" 230 does not forward the *Create Path* request since there are no other entries in the path. Upon receiving the *Change Target* request from node 230 (Node 1.7), node 200 (Node 1.6) formats and sends a *Restore Path* request to ~~node 200 (Node 1.6)~~ <u>node 230 (Node 1.7)</u>.

Please **amend** the paragraphs in the section "CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS BEGINNING" on page 1 as follows:

This application relates to the following commonly assigned applications:

1.   Patent Application Serial No. 09/751,763; filed December 30, 2001, entitled, "A METHOD FOR ROUTING INFORMATION OVER A NETWORK EMPLOYING CENTRALIZED CONTROL," (Attorney Docket No. ~~M-8575 US~~ <u>CIS0093US, now U.S. Patent No. 6,973,023, issued December 06, 2005</u>).

2.   Patent Application Serial No. 09/859,166; filed May 16, 2001, entitled, "A METHOD FOR RESTORING A VIRTUAL PATH IN AN OPTICAL NETWORK USING [[1:N]] <u>1+1</u> PROTECTION," (Attorney Docket No. ~~M-7165-8P US~~ <u>CIS0008P6US</u>).

The above mentioned applications are assigned to Cisco Technology, Inc., the assignee of the present invention, and are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety and for all purposes.

Application No.: 09/899,962

Please **amend** the paragraph on lines 1-5 of page 9 as follows:

       The method in which VPs are restored is the same regardless of how backbone routes are obtained. If 1:1 protection is used in the backbone zone, the alternate route is simply the protection channel assigned to the failed span. For description of 1:1 and 1:N protection, see ~~reference~~ the above-referenced patent application entitled "A METHOD FOR RESTORING A VIRTUAL PATH IN AN OPTICAL NETWORK USING [[1:N]] 1+1 PROTECTION."

Please **add** the following two paragraphs immediately after the paragraph ending with ". . . using the *Restore Path* packet/request." on line 3 of p. 7 (and immediately before the paragraph beginning with "Restoration times can also be limited by eliminating . . ." on line 4 of p. 7):

       The 1+1 restoration method is typically assigned to mission critical data paths with higher CoS. In a 1+1 restoration method, two distinct physical paths are provisioned and assigned to a VP. Each provisioned physical path is preferably completely node and link disjoint, although the 1+1 restoration method described herein can be limited to only a section of a given path. The VP is provisioned by using two separate Add Path requests for two distinct physical paths. The provisioning of the VP is not considered successful unless two distinct physical paths are provisioned and assigned to the VP. One of the two assigned physical paths is designated as the primary path and the other physical path is designated as the secondary path. During the provisioning, each tandem node allocates specific ports at input and output links for each path. For 1+1 restoration scheme, these ports are not shared by any other VP. In case of a path failure, tandem nodes do not release these ports.

       After the provisioning of a VP using a 1+1 restoration method, the reserved ports and the bandwidth of the secondary path are not used by any other VP in the network. The secondary path is dedicated to the VP for restoration purposes. The primary path and the secondary path stay active during the data transmission. However, one path is used as the transmission path and the other path is used as standby path in case of a failure.